

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join with the city of Buffalo, and indeed, our entire western New York community, to honor Mr. Gaiter, a true community leader. I would also like to convey to the Gaiter family my deepest sympathies, and ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join with me in a moment of silence.

REMEMBERING CHAD W.
SCHUBERT OF DOVER, OH

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Chad W. Schubert of Dover, OH, and to extend my sympathies to his parents, Joe and Kathy Schubert, and to his brother Joey and sister Heather.

Chad passed away following an industrial accident on March 28, 1997. He had volunteered his time and energy on my congressional campaigns, and was always willing to do anything he could to help. Chad showed his dedication to the community and to others through his graduating from Traynor's Police Academy in Canton, OH. I appreciate Chad's integrity and his dedication to his country and to his community.

My thoughts and sympathies are with the Schubert family for the loss of their son and brother. I am certain that these feelings are shared by everyone who was fortunate to have known Chad. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Chad Schubert and his family in their prayers. He will be missed.

MICHAEL DEGRANDIS
REMEMBERED

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to note the passing of Michael DeGrandis. Mr. DeGrandis was the dean of community politics in Cleveland. He possessed a keen understanding of the political process and enabled many Clevelanders to make a difference.

Mike was born in Cleveland, where he grew in the Buckeye-Woodland neighborhood. He graduated from Cathedral Latin High School and served in the Army as a radio controller in Okinawa during the Vietnam war.

Mike worked for the city of Cleveland as a housing inspector. He then worked as an examiner with the Ohio auditor's office. Following that, he became an assistant business manager for the Cleveland public schools. Later, he served as an assistant chief deputy for the civil branch of the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Department.

Mike's political involvement was far reaching. He attended every Democratic convention since 1964, and was a delegate to last summer's convention in Chicago. He was also co-host of a weekly radio show, "Democratic Point of View," on WERE AM/1300. Mike was

so involved in the democratic process that he thought to make sure that the last four digits of his home phone number spelled. VOTE.

Mike understood what people cared about. He understood their hopes. He cared that their dreams were foremost in the minds of elected officials.

Mike left his wife, Irene, daughters Nicole and Michelle, and son Michael. We will all miss him greatly.

TRIBUTE TO CRIME VICTIMS

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. McNULTY. Mr. Speaker, this month, the Nation observed Crime Victims' Rights Week, which was geared to the theme: "Let Victims' Rights Ring Across America." This annual observance is a recognition of the victims of criminal acts and an expression of confidence that we will soon have in place all the necessary legislation to ensure justice and assistance for the victims and their families.

It is gratifying to see that this important issue is being addressed by the House and Senate.

As a strong supporter of victims' rights, I take this occasion, Mr. Speaker, to recognize the work of the Capital District Coalition for Crime Victims. This organization represents the collaborative efforts of crime victims, victim advocates, victim service providers, agencies of the justice system, and my constituents in the 21st Congressional District of New York—as well as surrounding districts.

The coalition's mission is to increase public awareness about the effects of crime and victimization, and work for fair and equal treatment of those who have been victims of crime—and their families.

The coalition had its beginnings in 1988. It is chaired by Ms. Patricia Gioia, of Waterford, NY, who is also capital district chapter leader of POMC [Parents of Murdered Children], and other survivors of homicide victims. The coalition cochair is Ms. Flo Derry, coordinator of the Albany County CCVAP [Comprehensive Crime Victim Assistance Program].

This year, a major coalition event was the dedication of the Brick Memorial Walk Way at the New York State Crime Victims Memorial, located directly behind the legislative office building near the Swan and State Streets intersection in Albany. Each brick of the walk way is inscribed with the name of a crime victim.

This walk way will serve as a monument to the victims of criminal acts of violence. It also sends an important message that we shall do all in our power to protect the rights of victims of crime.

HONORING JUANITA WHITE

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker I rise today to honor a leading citizen of the 11th

Congressional District, Ms. Juanita White, an active civic leader from the Springdale Civic Association at Bailey's Crossroads, VA. Juanita was born here in Washington, DC, and grew up in Fairfax County, where she has graciously spent her time and energy giving back to our community. Juanita has contributed over 26 years to our county school and park systems, and has always devoted herself to working with the area's children. She served as president of Missions Ministry and also of the Social Seniors of Bailey's Community Center.

Mrs. White has also been active in children's activities at the community center, and is a constant volunteer and leader for the Springdale Civic Association. This active and committed spirit is only one of the endearing qualities which will be celebrated by all her family and friends on April 26, 1997, as they gather to applaud her amazing contributions to the northern Virginia area.

I am sure her friends and family as well as all of the citizens in the 11th District of Virginia join me in wishing her well as we all share in the joy of this momentous occasion. I look forward to wishing you many happy birthdays in the future.

TRIBUTE TO COLDWATER CHAPTER OF THE ORDER OF THE EASTERN STAR

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize the Coldwater Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star [OES]. This group has contributed to the Branch County community in countless ways. Just one of their notable contributions was hosting a welcome home reception for returning gulf war soldiers, including parades around the county and providing food for all of the veterans and their families. OES also provides generous scholarships to area students every year. These are just a few of the shining examples of the organization's dedication to the betterment of south central Michigan. While it's difficult to surmise all of OES's contributions because of their belief in anonymous charity, the group's existence has been an enormous benefit to the community.

Today, I would like to take the opportunity to do more than just recognize the Coldwater Chapter of the OES for their philanthropic works, I would also like to congratulate them as they celebrate 130 years of existence. It was in 1867 that the first members of the Order of the Eastern Star, Coldwater Chapter No. 1, began official meetings in Branch County. It is now the oldest surviving chapter in the United States, having maintained its traditions since its birth.

The Coldwater Chapter of OES has given years of priceless assistance to Branch County, MI, and it deserves our laurels. Their dedication and selflessness is truly an honor to the State of Michigan and the national Order of the Eastern Star.